

REMARKS

The Examiner's Action mailed on March 5, 2004 has been received and its contents carefully considered.

Claims 1-9 are pending in this application. New claims 10-19 are added herein. Original claim 1 and new claims 10 and 15 are independent claims.

The Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's early indication that claims 1-5, 7 and 8 are allowed.

In the Office Action, claims 6 and 9 are rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that the features recited in claims 6 and 9 are not described in the specification. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

It is respectfully submitted that rejected claims 6 and 9 are fully supported by the third embodiment disclosed in the present application. Specifically, the recitations made in claims 6 and 9 are fully supported by the disclosure made at page 28, line 23 through page 32, line 25 of the specification. It is the Applicant's position that one skilled would be able to understand, and to make and/or use the invention of claims 6 and 9 on the basis of the detailed description cited above.

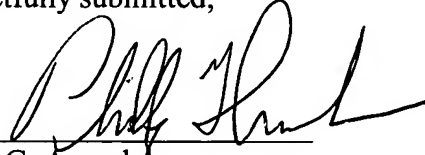
New claims 10-19 are added to provide further patent protection for the invention disclosed in the present application.

All of the Examiner's concerns having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the application, as amended, is in condition for allowance. Allowance of the application with claims 1-19, and the passing of this case to issue are respectfully solicited.

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Should the Examiner feel that a conference would help to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date

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